Virginia Beach Friends Meeting
First Day Discussion Report
Fifth Month, 8, 2022

Our discussions of the Pendle Hill pamphlet, *Marking the Quaker Path: Seven Key Words plus One*, continue to be deep and engaging. The seven words are: condition, experience, covenant, discipline, discernment, authority, and the beloved community, plus submission.

Our discussions have brought us to the section of the "beloved community" for our next meeting, but we have found that there is an interconnectedness of these words and our discussions reflect that sense.

Here is a one quote from the chapter on "Discernment" -
Discernment requires trust - trust in other Friends and trust that the Divine Truth is accessible to us. . .
Discernment requires us to put down those hasty spirits within that nudge us to press forward before our hearts have been brought together. . .
Discernment requires us to let go of those fearful and anxious spirits that cause us to hold back from joining our hearts with others. To gain trust we must be trustworthy. We must be slow to judgement and gentle in our demeanor.

When we sense that we have completed the discussion of *Marking the Quaker Path*, the next reading in the queue is the Pendle Hill pamphlet: *Spirit-led Eldering*.

All Friends are welcome to attend FDD on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, 9:30am via blended technology.

Submitted by
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